

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 206814
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:JHHAWES
APPROVED BY EUR:RDVINE
OSD/ISA:MR. SIENA
OSD/AE:MR. COTTER
NSC:MR. HYLAND
PM/ISP:MR. GOMPERT
EUR:MR. GOODBY
S/S-O: LRFLEISCHER
S/S:PTARNOFF
JCS:J-5: COL. JOHNSON (INFORMED)
-----113240 301351Z /53
O R 301318Z AUG 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY BONN IMMEDIATE
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS

S E C R E T STATE 206814

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NATO, PFOR, MNUS, NPG

SUBJECT: CONSULTATIONS ON ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS
REF: USNATO 07900

1. FOR USNATO: WE ARE PLANNING TO HAVE CONSULTATIONS WITH
THE ALLIES PRIOR TO A US DECISION ON ENHANCED RADIATION
WEAPONS. FOLLOWING CONFIRMATION OF MEETING WITH FRG
OFFICIALS FOR BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS DESCRIBED PARA 2,
MISSION SHOULD SCHEDULE MEETING WITH NPG PERMREPS
SEPTEMBER 13. MISSION SHOULD INDICATE WE WOULD APPRECIATE
SECRET

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COMMENTS ON DEPLOYMENT OF THE ER WEAPON IN EUROPE.

2. FOR BONN: WE BELIEVE THAT THE ISSUE IS OF GREATEST
CONCERN TO THE FRG AND THAT BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH
THE FRG ARE ESSENTIAL IN OUR OWN DECISION PROCESS. WHILE
A DECISION TO PRODUCE ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS IS OF
COURSE A US DECISION TO MAKE, GERMAN VIEWS WILL INFLUENCE

OUR THINKING. FOR THIS REASON, WE BELIEVE EARLY BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE FRG SHOULD BE SCHEDULED. WE WOULD LIKE TO HOLD THESE AFTER THE BUNDESTAG DEFENSE DEBATE, AND WOULD PROPOSE SEPTEMBER 12. US WOULD BE REPRESENTED BY A STATE/DEFENSE TEAM INCLUDING MCGIFFERT, GELB, COTTER AND GOODBY.

3. EMBASSY BONN SHOULD APPROACH FOREIGN MINISTRY (VAN WELL)

AND PROPOSE SENIOR LEVEL CONSULTATIONS, DRAWING ON FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS:

-- AS YOU KNOW, THE UNITED STATES, AS PART OF THE EFFORT TO MODERNIZE NATO'S THEATER NUCLEAR FORCES, HAS DEVELOPED WARHEADS WHICH MINIMIZE BLAST AND THERMAL RADIATION WHILE UTILIZING ENHANCED RADIATION TO MAINTAIN MILITARY EFFECTIVENESS. THESE WEAPONS COULD ADD TO NATO'S DETERRENT POSTURE BY PROVIDING ALLIANCE FORCES WITH THE OPTION OF INFLECTING HEAVY DAMAGE ON MILITARY TARGETS WHILE REDUCING UNWANTED DAMAGE TO FRIENDLY FORCES AND CIVILIAN AREAS AND POPULATION. CONSEQUENTLY, WE HAVE KEPT THE NUCLEAR PLANNING GROUP FULLY INFORMED OF OUR EFFORTS.

-- BECAUSE OF THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE TO YOU AND YOUR GOVERNMENT--AND IN VIEW OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION
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OF ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEADS--WE WANT TO SEEK YOUR VIEWS DIRECTLY AT THIS TIME. CLEARLY, THE DECISION WHETHER TO PRODUCE THESE WEAPONS IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNITED STATES; BUT JUST AS CLEARLY A CONSIDERATION IN THIS DECISION WILL BE YOUR VIEWS--AND THE VIEWS OF THE ALLIED GOVERNMENTS--ON THE DESIRABILITY OF DEPLOYING THEM IN THE NATO AREA. HOWEVER THE US DECIDES ON PRODUCTION, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT TO HAVE IN HAND ALLIED VIEWS ON DEPLOYMENT.

-- WE ARE PREPARED TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE AND DEFENSE DEPARTMENTS TO BONN TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER WITH YOUR OFFICIALS. IF IT MEETS WITH YOUR APPROVAL, WE PROPOSE -- SEPTEMBER 12 FOR THESE CONSULTATIONS.

-- WHATEVER DECISION IS REACHED ON PRODUCTION OF THE ENHANCED RADIATION WARHEADS--AND WHATEVER YOUR INCLINATION WITH REGARD TO THEIR DEPLOYMENT--WE HOPE FRG WILL WORK WITH US IN MAKING CLEAR OUR REASONS FOR TAKING THESE POSITIONS, SO THAT THERE WILL BE NO MISUNDERSTANDING ON THE PART OF OUR PEOPLES, OR WORLD

OPINION IN GENERAL. WE KNOW YOU WILL AGREE ABOUT
THE IMPORTANCE OF OUR USING THIS PROCESS OF DECISION AS
A MEANS OF PROMOTING THE BEST LONG-TERM INTERESTS OF
THE ALLIANCE, AND OF STRENGTHENING RELATIONS BETWEEN
OUR TWO COUNTRIES.

VANCE

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PAGE 01 STATE 206814
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY EUR/RPM:JHHAWES

APPROVED BY EUR:JWSHINN

S/S-O:LRFLEISCHER

-----122465 310232Z /64

R 310051Z AUG 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

INFO USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T STATE 206814

EXDIS - MILITARY ADDEE HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 206814 ACTION NATO BONN
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 30 AUG 77

QUOTE

S E C R E T STATE 206814

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VANCE.
UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER".

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: RADIATION, ADVANCED WEAPONS, CONSULTANTS, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: JHHAWES
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770313-0326
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977087/aaaaafwe.tel
Line Count: 247
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Litigation History:
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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